Remarks

The Office Action of March 2, 2010, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 1and 8 – 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Browne et al.

Claims 2, 4 – 7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Browne et al. and in view of the patent to Margolis et al.

Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Browne et al. and in view of the patent to Riad.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended Claims 1 and 12, and added new Claim 14.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly-advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to the patent to Browne et al., it can be seen that this patent discloses a vehicle body shake-absorber having an energy-absorbing member 19 that is mounted in the engine compartment at the front of the vehicle as shown in Figure 1, or at the rear of the vehicle near the rear wheels above the under-body. As shown in Figure 3, the absorbers 19 extend laterally between the rear wheels of the vehicle. Although the movement of the absorber 19 causes the viscoelastic material 26 to move and heat-up, there is nothing in the teachings of Browne et al. which would make it obvious to one skilled in the art to convert the movement of the strut into electric or hydraulic energy. The viscoelastic material 26 of Browne et al. is provided merely to dampen vibration. Whether any appreciable heat is generated during this damping, is questionable. Still more questionable is whether any heat generated is sufficient to provide storable energy. Without some indication that this supposed energy conversion is useful in any way other than

damping vibrations, it would not be obvious from the teachings of Browne et al. to convert the vibrations to electric or hydraulic energy, as in the presently-claimed invention.

Furthermore, relative to new dependent Claim 14, Browne et al. does not teach or render obvious a strut mounted below the under-carriage of the automobile body.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 1and 8 – 12 over the above-discussed reference, is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Margolis et al. discloses a re-generative system, including an energy transformer which requires no external power source to drive it. The system of Margolis et al. is applied to the suspension of a vehicle, so as to re-generate vertical movement of the primary suspension of the vehicle, i.e., the shock absorber, or spring.

The Examiner combined Margolis et al. with Browne et al. in determining that Claims 2, 4 – 7, and 13 would be unpatentable over such combination. Applicant submits that one skilled in the art looking to stiffen an automobile body would not look to wheel suspensions for any solutions, since wheel suspensions deal essentially with large, vertical motions, whereas body stiffening deals with much smaller motions, and there is nothing which would suggest or render it obvious to one skilled in the art to use a re-generative system as taught by Margolis et al., which converts large, vertical movements of the vehicle wheel, with a shake-absorber, as taught by Browne et al., which of necessity only deals with comparatively small, horizontal movements. There is nothing in either reference which would suggest any desirability of, or benefit from, providing a re-generative system for large displacements as taught by Margolis et al. in the Browne et al. absorber.

Relative to new Claim 14, neither Browne et al., nor Margolis et al., teach a strut arranged beneath the under-body.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 2, 4 – 7, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references, is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Riad has also been considered. This reference adds nothing to the teachings of Browne et al. so as to suggest the invention recited in independent Claim 1 as discussed above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Fees

Other than the $130 fee for the one-month extension of time, and the $810 fee for the RCE, no additional fees are believed to be due. However, if any fee is determined to be due, authorization is hereby given to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2275. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), please treat this and any concurrent or future reply in this application that requires a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The fee associated therewith is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

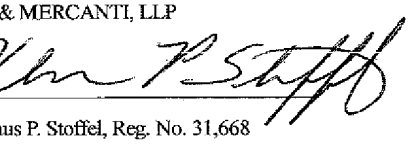
Respectfully submitted

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

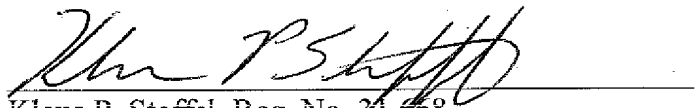
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this document is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents via EFS-Web on July 2, 2010.

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

By: 

Klaus P. Stoffel, Reg. No. 31,668

By: 

Klaus P. Stoffel, Reg. No. 31,668
475 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
Tel: (212) 661-8000